

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02

SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 AF-08 ARA-06

EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /099 W
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O R 151614Z OCT 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 2928

INFO SUMISSION USUN 3825

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 8096

FOR IO/IEP - WOODBURY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNCTAD, VN, PFOR

SUBJ: UNCTAD TDB: SRV PARTICIPATION

REF: A. STATE 250101, B. GENEVA 7798

1. DURING FIRST TWO WEEKS OF UNCTAD TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD, PARTICIPATION OF SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV) HAS BEEN VERY LOW-KEY. SRV DELEGATION CONSISTS OF TWO MEMBERS FROM ITS PERMANENT GENEVA MISSION, CHARGE D'AFFAIRES HUYNH CONG TAM AND LUNG VAN LY, WHO HAVE MADE NO STATEMENTS AND HAVE ONLY SPORADICALLY ATTENDED PLENARY MEETINGS. SRV PARTICIPATION IN MEETING HAS RECEIVED NO PRESS COVERAGE.

2. GENERAL ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING HAS BEEN FAIRLY GOOD, BUT CONFRONTATION IS DEVELOPING BETWEEN GROUP B AND THE G-77 OVER SOME TROUBLESOME FINANCIAL, TRADE AND INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES.

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3. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS, USDEL THINKS THAT ANY EXPRESSION OF OUR RESERVATIONS TO SRV MEMBERSHIP (AS INSTRUCTED IN REFTEL A) WOULD BE POLITICALLY UNWISE AND COULD TOUCH OFF INFLAMMATORY STATEMENT FROM THE SRV. IT WOULD GIVE EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY TO SRV PARTICIPATION WHICH OTHERWISE WOULD PROBABLY BE ALMOST UNNOTICED. SUCH AN ACTION ON OUR PART WOULD ALSO PROVIDE AN EXCUSE FOR THE RADICAL MEMBERS OF THE G-77 TO RALLY TO THE SRV CAUSE AND COULD POISON THE ATMOSPHERE DURING THE CRITICAL FINAL WEEK OF THE MEETING.

4. SINCE THE U.S. IS NOT ON THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, ANY EXPRESSION OF RESERVATION TO SRV MEMBERSHIP WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE IN PLENARY SESSION MORNING OF OCT 18. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPT REVIEWING ITS POSITION AND NOTIFYING US BY OPENING OF BUSINESS OCT 18 IF IT COULD MODIFY OUR INSTRUCTIONS SO THAT USDEL WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO EXPRESS OUR RESERVATIONS TO SRV MEMBERSHIP. CATTO

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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